

Bishop C.H. Mason, Founder 1907

# THE WHOLE TRUTH

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

"The law of truth was in his mouth and iniquity was not found in his mouth." Mal. 2:6. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32.

VOLUME XXVIII, NO. III

C.O.G.I.C. HEADQUARTERS, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

MARCH, 1991

## THE UNFOLDING VISION

### Future Growth Development & Ministry

Bishop Louis H. Ford is a man with a vision and he is currently on a mission to bring it to fruition. His every heart beat is for the Church Of God In Christ and helping our Church realize its proper growth, development and ministry in a world of need. He spends a great deal of his time traveling around the country and especially between Chicago, Illinois and Memphis, Tennessee. His goals are simple, pure, and consist of projecting the right Christian ideals and organizational policies to all those whom would criticize or support the Church's efforts. Clearly, the Presiding Bishop hopes every fair minded and devoted person will cooperate, while his vision for a more caring and dynamic Church unfold. The Church more than ever must become the tool of ministry left in the world by Christ, in order to bring the kingdom of God to hand. Furthermore, the bishop is concerned that our Church be ready for the advent of the coming century. Lord delay His coming, in 2000, the Church Of God In Christ must be in position, responsibly using her resources and providing the coming generations with guidance, in what promises to be an even tougher world.

Presiding Bishop Ford is quite aware that solid relationships between Church and governmental officials are essential for proper footing of an organization. His unfolding vision is in part shared with the future of Memphis, Tennessee. Being a very practical individual, the bishop spent two days with the city officials of Memphis, with whom he talked, planned and demonstrated his commitment to the Church's growth, development and ministry in relation to Memphis.

He expressed to the Mayor and others how vital a positive relationship between the Church Of God In Christ and the city would be. The vision he shared with them was basic, functional and innovative enough to entreat even the most skeptical person. As a result of these talks, the Church's presiding officer desired to share with the readership of the newspaper his unfolding vision for the Church Of God In Christ.

### Growing & Developing with Memphis

After some warm greetings and informalities the team of clergy and the mayor of Memphis, Mr. Dick Hackett, sat down for frank discussions. In Mayor Hackett's office Presiding Bishop Ford, Bishop C.L. Anderson, Bishop W.L. Porter, Bishop P.A. Brooks and the Elder A.Z. Hall discussed in principle, those things close to the heart of the Presiding Bishop. Bishop Ford spoke of the Church maintaining its viable presence downtown. Bishop envisions the Church Of God In Christ growing with the urban



renewal efforts being put forth by the city. Firstly, he wants the city to understand that the Church Of God In Christ is a vital part of Memphis. He invited the Mayor and local officials to take an active role in promoting his vision, since it would inevitably help advance the city's development. Downtown Memphis is undergoing substantial change and of course with the Church being one of the chief land holders in the downtown area, Bishop Ford is aware how vital and consistent city designs must be. Bishop Ford stated his vision shares a kinship to the dream of our late presiding officer, Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. His vision coincided in numerous ways to the Patterson dream, and of course the development of the downtown property was high on the list.

Mayor Dick Hackett shared his understanding of things. He recognizes the continual and vital contributions the Church Of God In Christ is making to the community. He foresees even greater contributions and cooperation between Church and city. Should the vision of Bishop Ford become an official goal of the organization, the mayor promised whatever tangible support he and his administration could give. His willingness to hear was of course a first step in this future relationship. As a sign of fellowship and genuine warmth, the mayor presented Bishop Ford with a gift. The meeting was very open and encouraging to all participants, in that it possibly means more and better relationships between people of common need.

(Continued on page 8)

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY APRIL SESSION

In the November session of the General Assembly, Dr. Frank J. Ellis, Chairman, stated that due to the extreme amount of business to be covered in the April meeting an extension of that meeting would be necessary. The General Assembly agreed, without dissent, to extend the April session to begin Monday, April 8, 1991 at 6:00 p.m. and conclude Friday, April 12, 1991. Delegates are urged to comply with the will of the Assembly, gather on time and prepare to remain until all business is concluded.

The proposed agenda for this *unprecedented* session will include several important constitutional amendments which should be in place before the 1992 General Election (i.e., election and tenure of the Presiding Bishop, election of the First and Second Assistant Presiding Bishops and the procedures for ascension). Passage of these amendments would help to avoid the situation which developed at the demise of Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. when it became necessary to hold a special election to elect a new Presiding Bishop.

The proposed agenda will also include a report of

Monday, April 8, 1991 –  
Friday, April 12, 1991



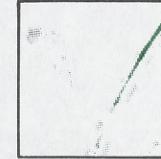
the activities of the General Board; the composition, criteria, qualifications, elections procedures, etc; regarding the establishment of the Judiciary Board; approving the 1991 operating budget of the CHURCH; approving procedures for the creation and establishment of jurisdictions; the creation of a Ways and Means Committee for developing a more *equitable system* of quotas and assessments; and a review from the Commission on General Officer's renumerations and job description.

Please be reminded that all jurisdictional bishops and supervisors will be called upon to give their jurisdictional financial reports using the receipt from the Financial Secretary's office. *As mandated by the General Assembly, reports are to be made by certified check, money order or in cash.*

Dr. Ellis continues to solicit the prayers of the saints from across the CHURCH in asking God's blessings upon the work of the General Assembly and that this session will continue to work toward the up-building of God's Kingdom and the unity of the Brotherhood.



# THE WHOLE TRUTH



## Editorial

### Reflection on the Unfolding Vision



Dr. David Hall

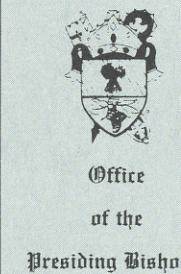
After compiling the material for this edition of The Whole Truth, I must confess that our Presiding Bishop is a man on a mission. He is uniquely prepared for the task he feels God has directed him to undertake, and it is imperative the Church Of God In Christ see clearly what he envisions. The bishop is so dedicated to the work, I don't believe anything short of death will deter his attempt to bring his vision to fruition. Through all the proposed ideas and goals, I hear Presiding Bishop Ford telling the Church something the noted theologian Hans Kung told his Catholic Church. Kung said, "The Church is responsible to examine its conscience and then place into action the faith." This practical application of faith means ultimately the witness.

Bishop Ford is attempting to help the Church Of God In Christ face the larger issues of conscience and the practical application of faith, while hoping that we can be objective about the challenge ahead. Certainly, incorporated within his vision will be challenges we welcome and others we don't appreciate so well. No matter what challenges the Church encounters, it must project Christ and the glorious mission He left us. To fail in our responsibility to preach, teach and heal means we have failed the mandate placed upon our shoulders.

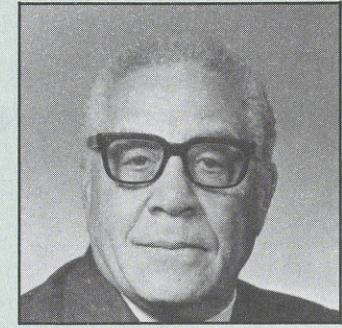
Furthermore, the Church must properly use the resources God has allowed us to accumulate, this includes buildings, land and skilled individuals, etc. Possibly our greatest failure would be our not merging the resources and skills in the Church for the mission. We would cheat God of his opportunity through us to do what Jesus commanded be done in Matthew 25:39-40. "Or when we saw thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Of course to fail in this pursuit would mean the judgement.

If the Church of God In Christ will be Christ's Church, it must pursue the challenges of our time with a powerful passion and a saintly compassion; whereby we can, figuratively speaking, kiss the sores of the lepers, and love even the despised and ugly people of this world. An unfolding vision carries no weight without the support of God's people. Our leader can see a vision and dream dreams, but unless we understand that God is speaking through him directly to us, then we won't follow. Bishop Ford's vision must unfold in the hearts of the righteous. All committed individuals have a heavy burden when time, resources and spiritual power are wasted. Can judgement be far off when the Church misses its responsibility? A Church uninspired can never make proper application of the faith God has given, and this world needs all the grace it can get.

The challenge is ours. Bishop Ford has supplied the vision, now we must stand by him and help him, in fact each of us must establish it among the people.



Office  
of the  
Presiding Bishop



Holy greetings in the name of our Lord and saviour, Jesus Christ.

I again greet you in the spirit of love and hope that we share through Jesus Christ: life, eternal.

God has placed it on my heart to speak with saints across the country and around the world. With the help of God, for the past year, I have been traveling tirelessly. I have been blessed to meet and greet saints in every area of the United States. I have had opportunity to enter states, towns, cities and villages where no other Church official has ever visited officially. I am happy to report that I have been warmly received and found saints rejoicing.

Let me share with you a glimpse of a visit to Lawton, Oklahoma with Bishop James A. Young of the Northwest Oklahoma Jurisdiction. After arriving to the Lawton Airport, Bishop took us on a tour to visit some of the 147 churches he oversees in his jurisdiction. We visited Ryan, Oklahoma, the oldest town in the southern part of the state. Most exciting was a visit to Buffalo Range, an Indian Reservation, where a Church Of God In Christ congregation is located.

Later we attended a banquet held in the Fort Still Officers Club, on the Army Base. We were blessed to enjoy a special presentation given by some fine and saintly Indian sisters.

My fond memories of Lawton, Fort Still and Buffalo Range are the same as I remembered wherever I have traveled across America. It is the commitment and dedication to the Church Of God In Christ and her doctrine by the saints, that helps me recognize our strength and purpose. Also, there is a great desire to share the knowledge of a saving and healing God.

God is truly working wonders in the Church Of God In Christ.

As I reflect on the Church and think about the future, I see a need to encourage our pastors and church leaders to achieve a closer walk with God. Many of us have scattered too many of God's people. Now is the time of healing and gathering.

Too many of God's pastors and workers have become weary in the way. A weary worker is just a step from fainting. I am praying daily that God will send a refreshing revival that the weary traveler may be renewed and find help in God. As we press on toward the high mark, many saints are catching the vision that God has given to meet the immediate needs of the Church. Please know this edition of The Whole Truth is dedicated to bring to you first hand information about the VISION of your Presiding Bishop.

- Firstly, the reopening of Saints School in Lexington, Mississippi. The school is needed for our children and children of future generations.

- Secondly, we must remodel and refurbish Mason Temple and its environs. The Temple must be preserved as a monument to our beloved founder, Bishop C.H. Mason, and all the early pioneers of the Church.

- Thirdly, we must continue to develop our downtown Memphis headquarters properties, to serve all needs, as well as the physical and spiritual needs of homeless and senior citizens.

- Fourthly, we must record the history of the Church Of God In Christ, designate our landmarks and prepare for further study. We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders He has done.

With God all things are possible.

My thanks goes out to all saints everywhere. Thank you for your warm reception, your many kindnesses and your great devotion to the Church Of God In Christ.

Please keep us in your prayers.

Your Chief Servant,

Bishop Louis Henry Ford †

## THE UNAC FAMILY EXCITED!!

The five departmental leaders of the UNAC Family, Bishop C.W. Williams representing the National Sunday School, Bishop C.L. Moody the Mission Department, Bishop C.H. Brewer the Youth Department, Dr. E.L. Battles the Evangelist Department, Dr. Mattie Moss Clark with the Chairman, Bishop F.E. Perry are thrilled at the progress, enthusiasm, and cooperation of the hosts and supporting bishops of Indiana. The local hosts are: Honorary Host Bishop Oscar Freeman and Co-hosts Bishop Milton Hall and Bishop John Dupree. All things are in motion, committees are busy and reservations are coming in nicely, in fact the Westin Hotel, (headquarters) is already filled.

If you have not registered, you should do immediately.

UNAC-5, the convention for the entire family offers many exciting things for your enjoyment. Special morning prayer, UNAC in-training, midday worship with the departments, children and youth church, scholastic motivation ministries, the song is born, many unique presentations and many classes to enjoy.

You must be there! Indianapolis, Indiana awaits us. Be sure to register now.

We're doing all we can do to make our Presiding Bishop Ford along with the General Board pleased, and we're supportive of his vision. See you in Indianapolis, Lord's will.

Chairman, F.E. Perry.



Bishop F. E. Perry

## THE WHOLE TRUTH

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# THE WHOLE TRUTH

## WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULED MAY 21 - 26, 1991

Mother Mattie McGlothen, International Supervisor of Women and staff are preparing for the 41st Annual Women's International Convention. The beautiful city of Richmond, Virginia will be the host city and this metropolis is known as the "Capital City of the State of Presidents." Richmond is the seat of Virginia's government and Virginia is the first state to have a black person elected as governor. There will be historic sites to see and of course those great convention activities to experience.

The three jurisdictions of Virginia will host the meeting. Bishop Ted Thomas and Mother Thelma Vaughn of Virginia, First Jurisdiction, Bishop Samuel L. Green and Mother Mary Featherston of Virginia Second Jurisdiction and Bishop Levi E. Willis and Mother Fannie Mann of Virginia, Third Jurisdiction are the official co-host of the convention. The supporting jurisdictions are North Carolina, Second Jurisdiction, Bishop Joseph H. Sherman and Mother Eva Bennett, and the Washington, DC Jurisdiction, Bishop Warren G. Crudup and Mother Elizabeth Hampton, together are laboring to provide the very best of hospitality for the conventioners. Dr. McGlothen and the convention have been fortunate to always encounter the greatest love and best support wherever the convention travels.

Again, the Red Card will provide the highest type of convenience and service. The staff is sorry to report that inflation has caused a small increase in the price of the card, but the quality and benefit for purchasing one remains the same. Supervisors are asked \$400.00 and all others \$350.00 for the Red Card fee. The card registration fee is based on double occupancy, and includes five nights lodging and seven meals. There is an installment payment plan available to delegates in need of a little time. There is a minimum deposit

\$100.00 per individual, and the housing application form must accompany the initial payment.

The deadline for submitting the housing form is April 15, 1991, otherwise the Red Card must be picked up at the convention. Changes in room or roommates will not be honored after April 15, 1991. If refund is necessary, please review the refund policy that comes with the package.

In order to give our delegates the most meaningful and timely service, the committee can accept only money orders or cashiers checks. No personal checks will be accepted by the committee. The Women are noted for conducting the smoothest and trouble free conventions. Surely the help of the delegates in doing all the required and recommended things makes this possible. Dr. McGlothen desires that the wives invite their husbands to the convention. The activities are very enjoyable and men appreciate true spirituality and fellowship like the women of our great Church. They too can enjoy the comfort and privilege of the Red Card. So invite and bring the gentleman of the home.

Worship services will be conducted daily and nightly at the Richmond Coliseum which is located at 601 E. Leigh Street. Hotels, restaurants and the Coliseum are all located in reasonable distances. Various tours and fellowship activities will be carried on that will make the entire convention an unforgettable experience, so please plan to attend.

For further information write or call the following:

Women's International Convention  
P.O. Box 1695  
Memphis, Tennessee 38101  
(901) 522-9964

## PASTOR'S CONFERENCE DATE CHANGED

Elder Franklyn Knight announced recently that his National Pastors and Elders Council's Annual Meeting Conference had a change of dates. Traditionally, the group meet during September, but in cooperation with the program of Presiding Bishop L.H. Ford, the chairman moved the conference up. July 17 - 19, 1991 in Washington, DC will be the dates and place that the annual conference will be conducted.

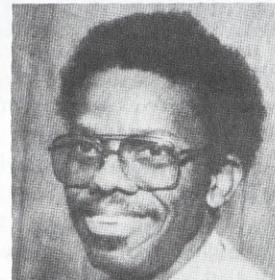
Chairman Knight reflected, "all plans are proceeding and we expect the same amount of support and cooperation we have always enjoyed." The Conference is well attended and provides a forum for the pastors and elders of the Church to meet, fellowship and tackle the issues of today's ministry. The Chairman indicated that on July 16, a Pre-Musical will be conducted and the actual Conference will have many significant seminars and presentations. The preachers are encouraged to bring their wives along because the group is firmly committed to the traditional concept of COGIC Team Ministry. There will be joint sessions for pastors and wives, and of course individual sessions likewise.

The registration fee is only \$125.00, (does not include housing expense) per delegate. This includes entry to all seminars and the banquet. Presiding Bishop Louis H. Ford will be the keynote speaker at the banquet. Any preacher bringing his wife will have to

pay an additional \$50.00 for the cost of a banquet ticket; the initial \$125.00 covers the wife's right to participate in all other activities. Hotel accommodations are the responsibility of each delegate. The Conference hotel is the Washington Vista Hotel. Elder Michael Eaddy is the Council's Conference Registrar, and encourages the delegates to make reservations early. Call 1-800-VISTADC and make reservations at Conference rates.

For information on the Conference, write to the following listing:

National Pastors and Elders Council  
P.O. Box 56363  
Brightwood Station  
Washington, DC 20011



Elder F.E. Knight, Chairman

### REGISTRATION: NPEC CONFERENCE July 17 - 19, 1991

The cost for attending the meeting is **\$125.00**. This includes all the sessions and the banquet. It does not include hotel and travel. (\$50.00 extra if wife is attending.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Wife's Name if Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ For How Many? \_\_\_\_\_

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: JUNE 15, 1991

Make your check or money order out to: National Pastors/Elders Conference  
Mail it to:

National Pastors/Elders Council  
P.O. Box 56363  
Brightwood Sta.  
Washington, D.C. 20011

## McGLOTHEN SILVER COMMEMORATIVE MEDALLION PLANNED FOR RELEASE



The Dr. Mattie McGlothen Library/Museum is pleased to announce the issuance of a Mattie McGlothen Commemorative Silver Medallion. Dr. Mattie McGlothen is the fourth General Mother and International Supervisor of the Women's Department, Church Of God In Christ. The medallion is

being issued to pay tribute this living legend of Christian and unselfish service. This superbly sculptured medallion commemorates the legacy of all the women who have labored incessantly in the Church. The coin will bear the likeness of Mother McGlothen and feature three clover flames which represent the three previous supervisors, Mother Lizzie Robinson, Mother Lillian Brooks Coffey and Mother Annie L. Bailey.

Certainly, no one can doubt the merit and value of such a tribute. Over the years Mother has provided support and leadership in the General Church. She has served two presiding bishops and was of course a model pastor's wife, in the tradition of COGIC team ministry. In 1938, she built a home for missionaries in the Bahamas Islands; in 1984, a pavilion in Port au Prince, Haiti for senior citizens and unwed mothers; in 1985, a home in Memphis, Tennessee was purchased for senior citizens and remodeled in 1987 to house senior guests during the Holy Convocation. An adjacent quarters serves as Headquarters for the International Department of Women. In 1989, The Mattie McGlothen Library/Museum was built and dedicated in Richmond, California.

This original limited edition medallion is made of one troy ounce, carefully minted to a proof quality and is 1 1/2" in diameter and is .999 fine pure silver. The medallion is scheduled for release during the May, International Women's Convention. Hopefully, purchasers will order now and be a part of the unveiling festivities. A percentage of the proceeds from the purchase of each coin will go toward the Dr. Mattie McGlothen Library/Museum and the McGlothen House Ministries. These institutions have long served the National and International Church. Surely our dear Mother is worthy of tribute. Purchase this medallion and have something which will serve as a lasting monument and historical reference of a great woman in the Lord.



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Mastercard  Visa  Gift Certificate # \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Send this form to:  
Silver Commemorative Company  
P.O. Box 71131 Station "D"  
Oakland, CA. 94612-1131

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Medallion(s) x \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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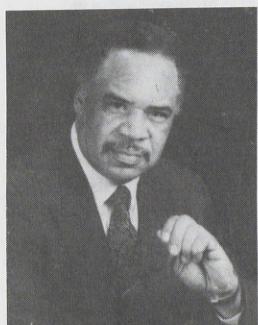
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\$105.00 orders = \$7.61

# THE WHOLE TRUTH

## BISHOP WELCOMED BY SOUTH AFRICA'S COGIC



The following is the itinerary of Bishop P.A. Brooks while in South Africa. Bishop Brooks is a General Board Member and Commissioner of Mission.

On Friday night November 30th, 1990, I was honored by a large gathering of saints and the community leaders in the township of Soweto, outside the city. This reception was held at the Community Center in the Multi-Purpose Hall.

Elder Clyde Young  
At this reception there was an elaborately decorated food display of salads, meats, fruits and vegetables of all kinds. These were served to us by lovely African hostesses, while the photographer moved about with cameras flashing, as this documented historic visit of a member of the presidium and commissioner of missions.



■ Bishop Brooks is welcomed to South Africa by Pastor Derick Finn, 6th from the left, along with other pastors and missionaries.

■ Bishop Brooks presents official day program of National Convocation to Bishop D'Long, Pastor of C.O.G.I.C. in Zulu Country. Bishop D'Long was saved in 1920 but has never been to America.

■ At the Johannesburg Airport from left to right. Bishop Brooks, Bishop Tutu's wife, Nelson Mandela and Missionary Sandra Parker pose for photo with other well wishers.



Pastor N. Como was a wonderful host and spoke of his recent trip to the 87th International Holy Convocation in Memphis, Tennessee. He especially delighted his audience when he told how glad he was to be back in the Church Of God In Christ, Inc., and that he had longed for some direction from the Mother Church and its leaders.

Now he was satisfied after having attended the Holy Convocation in Memphis, Tennessee and witnessed the mighty move of the Holy Spirit. He spoke of seeing over 40,000 saints praying, singing and worshiping the Almighty God during mass services both day and night. He spoke of services being conducted both at the historic Mason Temple, and also services in the huge main auditorium of the downtown Cook Convention Center.

Pastor N. Como stated how proud he was that the Church Of God In Christ was so large in the United States and he looked forward to similar growth in South Africa. To him, the coming of General Board Member Bishop P.A. Brooks to South Africa was a dream come true.

The people responded with enthusiastic "Amen's, hand clapping and shouts of praises." Next our Church Of God In Christ Missionary Sandra Parker spoke eloquently about blacks that were taken from these African shores and put in slave ships many centuries ago. These knew they had a homeland and in this strange land across the seas, developed their faith and searched the scriptures, and sought the Lord. Bishop C.H. Mason an African American, later said, "Preach this full gospel and take the name the Church Of God In Christ and there would never be a building large enough to hold the people." She went on to say, "Today we see this vision fulfilled with the Church Of God In Christ located in 50 countries around the world and also four generations of saints here in South Africa. She also spoke of the dream of Bishop Brooks coming to South Africa. She informed the people that the Church Of God In Christ is one of seven indigenous historic black churches dating back and started by ex-slaves or their children.

Saturday morning we boarded a 11:30 a.m. flight for a 3 1/2 hour flight to "Kimberly Africa, and after a short stop over in Blo'om Fountain, we proceeded

to Kimberly. Upon arrival at the airport, we rented a van and since they refused a check, I gave them my charge card and Brother Marsheba (a District Superintendent) then drove us the 360 KLM to the bush country in Bopbutswana homeland or what is called the Barkley West New Area.

We met in an unfinished church, there were gathered more than 17 local congregations in the bush area. The congregations flowed out of the building as our vehicle (van) rolled up, and the people sang and clapped their hands, and waved banners of welcome. The banners said in their language "How You Can Do More For Missions." We were informed that the Church Of God In Christ has the largest following in the area, exceeding all other religious groups such as Catholic, Muslin, Anglican or the Baptist. This lovely building in Barkley was build by pastor, Bishop D'Long and faithful members without assistance from anyone but God.

There seemed to be some concern about another elder seeking to be brought into the fellowship with good standing. After assurances by the bishop were given that we all should be of one mind, and then be prepared to worship in harmony. The pastor, Bishop D'Long extended to Elder Jeremiah Matsheba warm fellowship and to the other Bishop with whom he had some previous disagreements the same. They praised God and grace prevailed, and we especially enjoyed

ministering to these people of the Church Of God In Christ, earliest and oldest churches in South Africa. Bishop D'Long seemed to be in his eighties and he had with him many faithful mothers and elders along with generations of younger saints. The crowds overflowed this beautiful spacious new church, which had candle lighting only.

While we sang and praised the Lord, the brethren borrowed a generator for temporary electric light for the nights service.

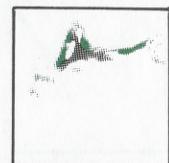
During my message, I informed them that the saints back home at the New St. Paul Tabernacle in Detroit were purchasing a generator for them, so they would have electricity by Christmas, to which the whole assembly of people began to shout and cry for joy.

As midnight approached, we had a great deliverance prayer in the closing of the service with laying on of hands as God moved in on the people in a mighty way.

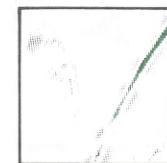
The people, of course did not want to see us leave after this service and asked us to stay, preach and pray a little while and since they had waited for us since 12:00 o'clock noon until 8:30 that night, we embraced them all as we said our farewells and left them a program from the National Convocation Official Day Service with Bishop Mason's picture.

Before we left, they gave us banners with COGIC on them, like the one's worn by the young women as part of their uniform.

(Continued next edition)



# THE WHOLE TRUTH



## 84TH HOLY CONVOCATION MEET IN PYRAMID?

Bishop L.H. Ford has a vision that must be explained. In this special edition of The Whole Truth he unfolds his vision for the Church Of God In Christ. One part of the vision is securing more space for the Founder's Day service, which is usually crowded and overflowing. Bishop Mason reportedly stated that no building would be able to hold the saints. Surely, the prophet's words have been fulfilled. Now the situation is nearly unbearable. Yearly, the saints attend the Holy Convocation in Memphis and yearly some never get a seat. It is frustrating to drive in to Memphis from miles away and arrive at 6:00 a.m. and not even have a place to stand. The main area in Cook Convention Center is normally filled by those who camp out during the night prior to the Founder's Day.

Bishop Ford made it clear that a future move to the newly built Great American Pyramid for the Founder's Day is a possibility. All other convocation activities will continue to be housed at regular sites. City officials are eager to have the pyramid occupied, see the bishop's statement as encouraging and a sign of renewed commitment by the Church Of God In Christ to the city of Memphis.

The recent years of hotel problems and other inadequate arrangements have made some delegates in the Church ready to move the convocation to another city. The Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau reports that nearly 40,000 saints fill the city for the Sunday Worship. In the Convention Center there is

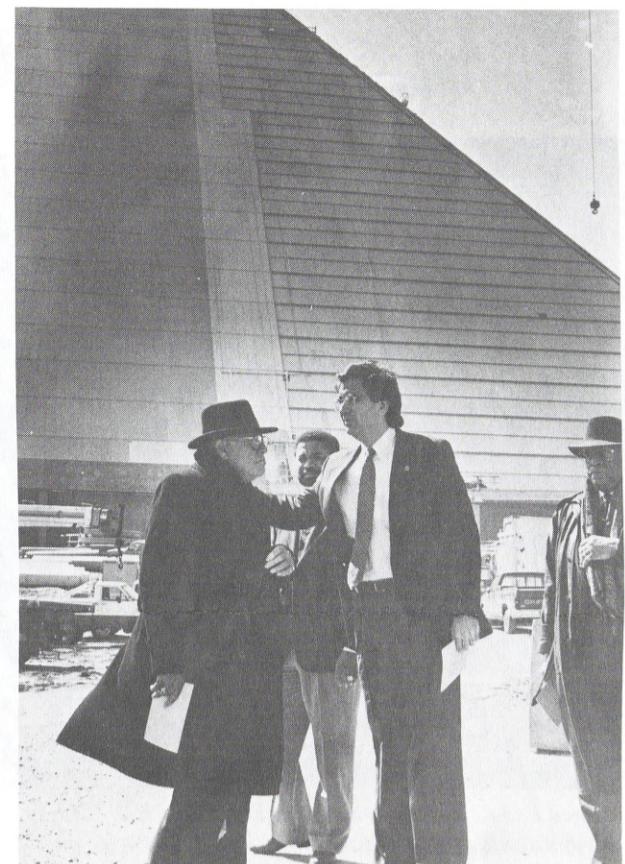
always an over flow crowds on hand. Darrell Ledett, a City official in convention development said that 22,000 out-of-towners attend the week long November convention. Of course those figures reflect the accommodations in Memphis hotels only. Out lying areas catch the overflow crowd. In reality thousands more attend and have no place to stand or sit.

If the mayor truly enjoys the talk of Church Of God In Christ leaders reaching out to the new bigger Great American Pyramid, then the city fathers are extremely eager to see the building occupied. Bishop Ford was addressing the press when he indicated, "Memphis has always been my dream city." Mayor Hackett responded, "Anytime you hear your largest and best customer refer to your city as Our city, it's heart-warming indeed."

Bishop Ford's vision is for the Church Of God In Christ to continue its growth along with the city and use the very best the city has to offer while providing safe and adequate housing accommodations and facilities for our saints.

The mayor took Bishop Ford and the visiting clergy on a tour of the pyramid. Wearing a hard hat and protective gear, the Presiding Bishop walked among the construction crews. He later paused with the mayor and others to meet the press.

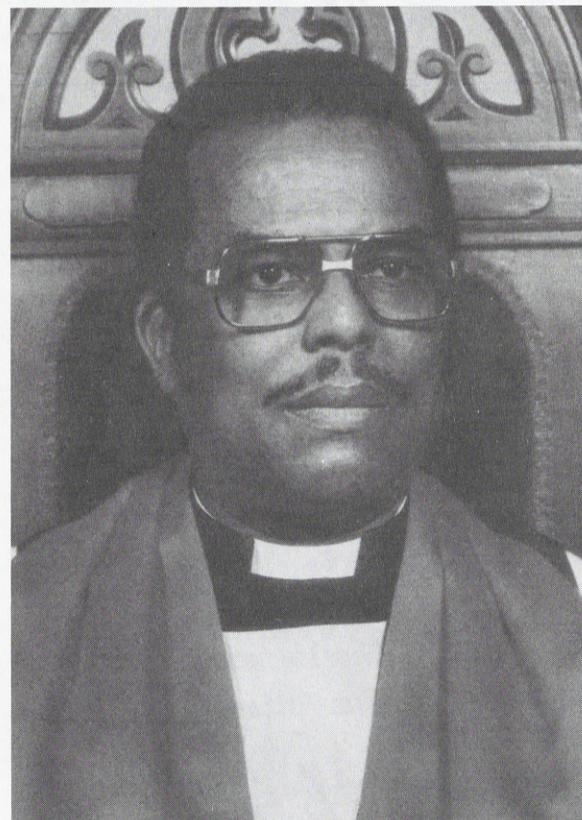
If all schedules are met as expected the saints will possibly have Founder's Day in the Pyramid in 1991.



At the construction site of the Great Pyramid, Bishop Ford and Mayor Hackett shows the Church officials around.

84th Convocation  
at Pyramid

## BISHOP J.O. PATTERSON, JR. INSTALLED



On the evening of February 22, 1991, Pentecostal Temple Institutional Church Of God In Christ officially installed their pastor, Bishop J.O. Patterson, Jr. Bishop Patterson has been at the helm of the church for nearly a year, as the official appointment was made after a period of mourning for the late pastor, Presiding Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. At the insistence of the local congregation, the bishop had a public installation and celebration in February.

Bishop H.J. Bell preached the message and inspired the entire house. The whole affair was memorable and very spiritual. The bishop is ready to continue his work for Christ and Church. For those of you who don't know much about the bishop, the following is a brief biographical statement on his life.

### Bishop James Oglethorpe Patterson, Jr.

From birth, on May 28, 1935, James Oglethorpe Patterson, Jr. has been the blessed recipient of holy instruction and guidance at the feet of his grandfather, Senior Bishop C.H. Mason, the late founding father of the Church Of God In Christ, and his parents, Presiding Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. and the late Mother Deborah Mason Patterson.

The difficult conditions of a life forced upon

American Blacks prompted Bishop and Mother Patterson to encourage young James to pursue a sound academic foundation. Their efforts were rewarded by his earning the Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Fisk University at Nashville, Tennessee. Further academic pursuits followed at DePaul University School of Law in Chicago, Illinois (Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree) and Memphis Theological Seminary (Master of Arts in Religion degree). While studying in Chicago, J.O. Jr. worshipped at St. Paul Church Of God In Christ under the pastorate of Presiding Bishop Louis H. Ford.

Following admittance to the practice of law in the states of Illinois and Tennessee, Bishop Patterson's concern for humanity led him to seek election to public office. For twenty-one years he served the State of Tennessee and City of Memphis with honor, dignity and distinction in several capacities: State Senator, Democratic National Convention Delegate, Constitutional Convention Delegate, Memphis City Councilman, Chairman of the City Council, and the first Black American to serve as the Mayor of the City of Memphis. During his last term in office, Bishop Patterson, Jr. announced his decision to not seek re-election; instead choosing to devote full time and energy to "Kingdom Work." His decision was received by his constituents with great regret but understanding.

During the early years of public service, God was active in Bishop Patterson's life and in His wisdom molding, making and calling him to Gospel Ministry. With penitent tears, a believing heart and confessing tongue Bishop Patterson answered the divine voice that was "softly and tenderly" calling. The years since have witnessed an outpouring of God's spirit upon him and his continued growth in divine service.

A model of Christian service is J.O. Patterson, Jr as he eagerly puts his hands to whatever tasks confront the Church. Be the work grand or menial, without reservation he performs each with equal fervor. On the national level he is the Legal counsel for the Church Of God In Christ and also serves as Legal Advisor for Saints Center's Board of Directors. Locally, he assisted his father as Senior Associate Minister of Pentecostal Institutional Church Of God In Christ. During National Convocation, 1985, he was consecrated to the office of Auxiliary Bishop and on October 22, 1988, the General Board recommended his appointment to the office of Jurisdictional Bishop, Headquarters Jurisdiction.

The Bishop James Oglethorpe Patterson, Jr. is happily married to the former Rose E. Kelley of Nashville, Tennessee and the proud father of four children, Dr. James O., III, Aaron Lamont; Jennifer Rose, and Charles Harrison Mason Patterson.

## REGISTER NOW!! for the 1991 MISS UNAC PAGEANT

The Miss UNAC Pageant is designed to provide the young ladies of the Church Of God In Christ with a sense of self-awareness and appreciation, as well as reinforce the role and responsibility of women in the Church, as related to the scriptures in life skills and encourage growth and maturity both spiritually and morally.

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1. Single females between ages 15 to 25.
2. Letter of recommendation from your Pastor and/or Jurisdictional Supervisor.
3. Entry fee of \$250.00, which must be paid with the application.
4. Demonstrate a talent in one of the following areas.
  - Voice
  - Instrumental
  - Talent

### Rules And Procedures

1. Pre-register before June 30, 1991 with application and entry fee.
2. Attend the Miss UNAC Pageant classes during the UNAC-5 Convention.
3. Come to the UNAC-5 Convention with the appropriate attire for the UNAC-5 Annual Banquet, (evening gowns, etc.).
4. Mail application to:

Miss UNAC Pageant • c/o Mrs. Mary Benjamin • 531 Brown St. • Rochester, NY 14611

### MISS UNAC-5 PAGEANT APPLICATION FORM

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School \_\_\_\_\_

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Letter of Recommendation from: \_\_\_\_\_  
(attach letter to application form)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \$25 (certified check or money order) payable to UNAC-5.

Talent: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Duration: \_\_\_\_\_

The Pageant will take place during the Banquet in the Grand Ball Room.

I agree to attend classes in UNAC that are provided for the pageant.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Write an exciting paragraph about yourself providing place of birth, favorite color, interests, hobbies, aspirations and what motivates you.

# THE WHOLE TRUTH

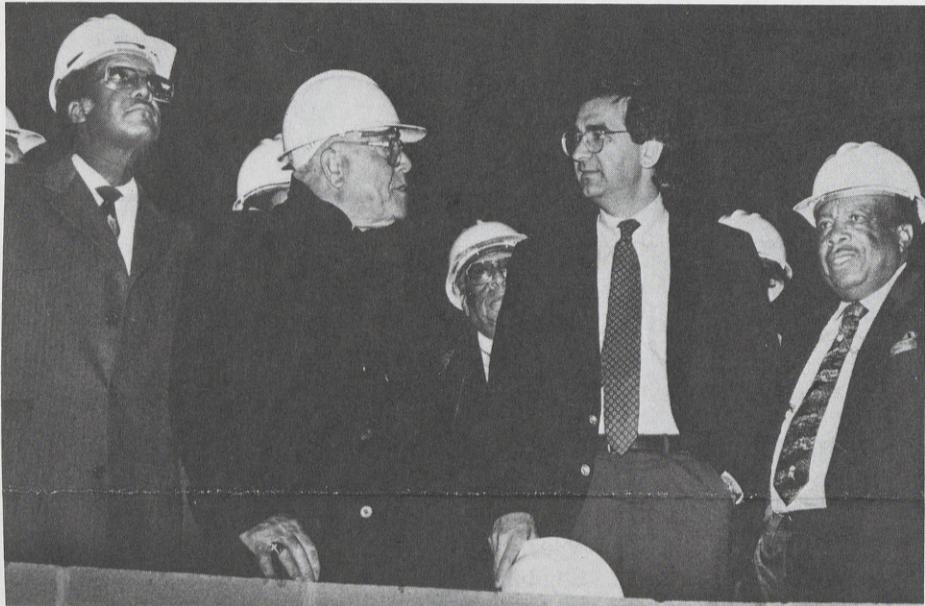
## PICTURE THE VISION



Pictured L to R, Mr. Darrell Ledett, Elder A.Z. Hall, Bishop P.A. Brooks, Presiding Bishop L.H. Ford, Mayor Dick Hackett, Bishop W.L. Porter and Mr. Gregory Duckett, Esq.



In the presiding officers quarters Bishop Ford poses with Church officials and Mrs. Judy Ponds of HUD and Mr. Gregory Duckett of the Mayor's office.



Bishop P.A. Brooks, Bishop Ford, Bishop C.L. Anderson, Mayor Hackett and Bishop W.L. Porter tour the downtown Pyramid.



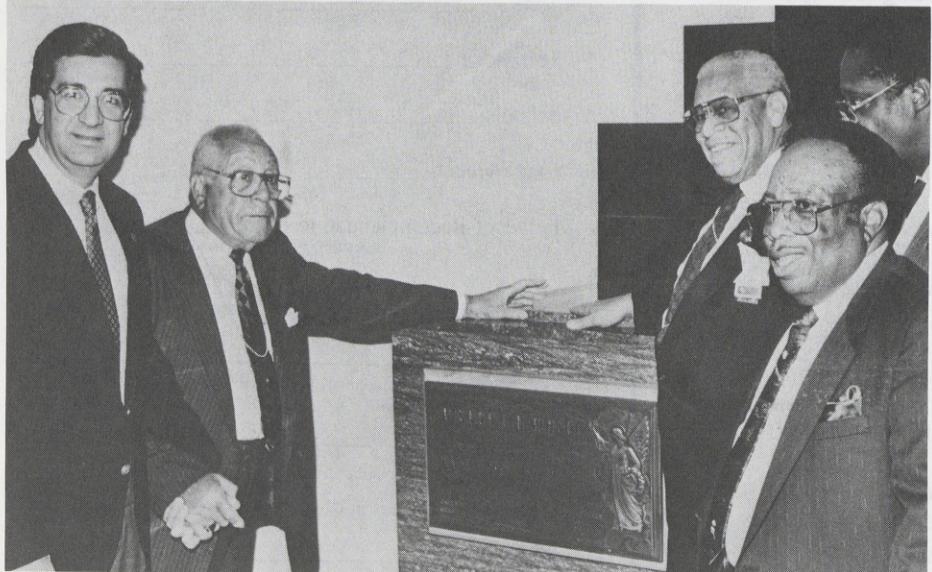
After much walking the mayor welcomes Bishop Ford to his office with discussion.



Bishop Ford engages the press in questions and answers.



Mayor Dick Hackett gave the press some encouraging words about the Church and city's relationship.



Presiding Bishop Ford shows the Mayor the newly renovated entombment of Founder C.H. Mason.

THE  
UNFOLDING  
VISION

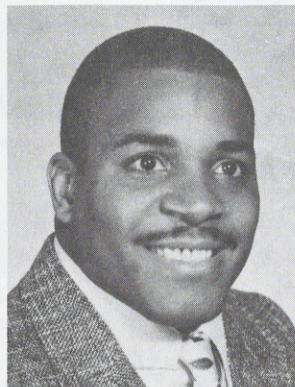


# THE WHOLE TRUTH

7

## IS JIM CROW STILL ALIVE?

by  
Dr. Alvin E. Miller, D. Min.



In retrospect, as a young lad, growing up in Fort Pierce, Florida, I can vaguely remember that infamous law—called “Jim Crow.” Even though Jim Crow was a law, we must never forget that his law was personified. It wore clothes, drove vehicles, went to school and even went to church.

St. Augustine said, “an unjust law is no law at all.” Thomas Aquinas said, “an unjust law is a human law that is not rooted in the natural and eternal law.” And Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “any law that uplifts human personality is just. Any law that degrades human personality is unjust.” I believe an unjust law is both demoralizing and lethal, because it corrupts the soul and destroys the mind. An unjust law denies the universal law of God. To sum it up, injustice at any level, interrupts the creative process of God.

Jim Crow was the systematic practice of segregative, oppressing, and the suppressing of the African-Americans. Theoretically, it was an idea, but realistically, it was a two-edged sword. It was designed to keep African-Americans in their places; obedient to their oppressors and ignorant of their true purpose for existing.

No one really knows where and when Jim Crow was born, but we do know that he took his roots up in the South. His presence was more prevalent in the South than the North, simply because there wasn't much need for him in the North because most of his victims dwelled in the South and the South encouraged his barbaric tactics.

He rose to stardom in the South because the South allowed him to practice his depraving beliefs at the expense of others. To the Dixiecrats, Dixieland was heaven, and Jim Crow was god! But his disposition was desecrating and demoralizing to an entire nation. He stood as tall as the stars and stretched himself as long as the beautiful stripes of “Old Glory.”

Many historians and sociologists have speculated that Jim Crow derived from a 19th century song called JIM CROW, a character in an act which was a song

by Thomas D. Rice, who died in 1860; or it could have been named after a particular man. The derivation is really not important, we are concerned with survivability of Jim Crowism. We must never forget that innocent people, black and white, were beaten, tortured, crippled (physically and psychologically), abused socially, economically, politically, and even murdered while combating this ruthless “demonic beast.”

Jim Crow took root in the South and then spread gracefully to the North. If anyone tries to dispute the fact that Jim Crow was not well and alive in the North, then ask them to give you the history behind the Apollo Theatre and the Cotton Club of New York City. Ask them why white Bostonians fought so violently against desegregating their public schools. Ask them why the Southern Christian Leadership Conference sent the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson to Chicago to establish Operation Breadbasket, designed to feed, clothe, and liberated the oppressed African Americans.

The difference between Jim Crowism in the South and the North, was, in the North, he hid himself behind a mask. His mask was his good ole, “Yankee smile” and his fantasized utopia that deceived many African-Americans by welcoming them with his right hand, while stabbing them in their backs with the converted dagger of social injustice. Whereas, in the South, his notorious tactics were practiced overtly without concerns or caution.

Many have said that Jim Crow died when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the 1964 Civil Rights Bill. In 1963, Johnson said that Lincoln's “Emancipation was a Proclamation but not a fact.” Johnson's statement is even valid today. The African-American is still in bondage. How long shall the African-American be servants of crime, dope, social injustice, and many other dehumanizing task masters?

Jim Crow is not dead, he has just taken on a new attitude. He has become wiser and less visible. He has realized that it is harder for his enemy to fight him if he can't identify him. He now hides behind such things as: College Proposition 42 and 48, Statewide Standardized testing, College Entrance Examinations (SAT and ACT), geographical zoning, drugs, and many other deceptive tactics.

Even though Jim Crow will live until the last days, we need to take an adamant stand to combat him on every front.

## UNAC-5 NATIONAL BIBLE BOWL COMPETITION

National Bible Bowl Competition • Indianapolis, Indiana  
July 1-6, 1991

### Introduction...

The United National Auxiliary's Convention of the Church Of God In Christ announces the National Bible Bowl Competition. This competition is held annually in the UNAC-5 and is designed for the winning team of each Jurisdictional Bible Bowl Competition to compete on a National level for the UNAC-5 Gold Cup Award.

This year the Bible Bowl will cover Church Doctrine (information may be obtained from Understanding Church Doctrine Book and the December 1990-February 1991 YPWW Quarterly, Church History (information obtained from the December 1986-February 1987 YPWW Quarterly), and the Books of I & II Corinthians.

Also, during the UNAC-5 Convention the following ministries will be available:

National Spelling Bee Competition  
Oratorical Competition  
Math/Computer Competition  
Drama Workshop  
UNAC-5 Young Ladies Workshop  
UNAC-5 Gentlemen's Workshop  
Miss UNAC Pageant  
Youth Talent Hour

and a new addition Preacher's Children Workshop. The topics for the Oratorical Competition are as follows:

- What are your feelings regarding the problems which are occurring among young women as a result of date rape?
- There is a dilemma facing black males regarding their church attendance. What do you think the church can do to meet the needs of the black male to bring him back into the church?
- What methods should be used in the “Nineties” in light of high tech and automation to present salvation to our youth?

For further information on each specific ministry you may contact the following persons:

**Bible Bowl**  
Mrs. Helen Givens  
28112 Rosewood  
Inkster, MI 48141  
(313) 277-0402

**Oratorical**  
Mrs. Vanessa Gatlin  
229 Diamond Drive  
Lafayette, LA 70501  
(318) 237-5327

**Spelling Bee\***  
Ms. Sandra Smith  
14812 Lexington  
Harvey, IL 60426  
(708) 339-7472

**Math/Computer**  
Elder Samuel Dyson  
3134 San Angelo Way  
Union City, CA 94587  
(415) 487-4829

\*A list of the Spelling Words will be supplied upon request.

**Drama Workshop**  
Mrs. Brenda Rivete  
8501 E. 56th Terrace  
Kansas City, MO 64129  
(716) 356-4235

**UNAC-5 Young Womens Workshop**  
Mrs. Dorothy Lee  
352 E. Eldridge Ave.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(313) 785-2480

**UNAC-5 Gentlemen's Workshop**  
Elder Michael Eaddy  
11816 S. Vincennes  
Chicago, IL 60643  
(312) 233-7698

**Preachers Children**  
Mrs. Lanelle King  
77 Orange Road, #45  
Montclair, NJ 07042  
(201) 509-7598

### UNAC-5 SCHOLASTIC MINISTRIES COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdiction Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdictional Bishop: \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry you wish to participate in: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

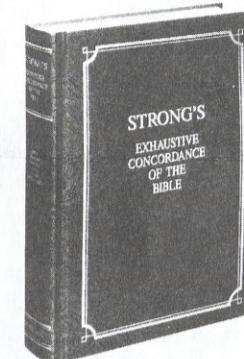
Team Leader may be contacted at: \_\_\_\_\_  
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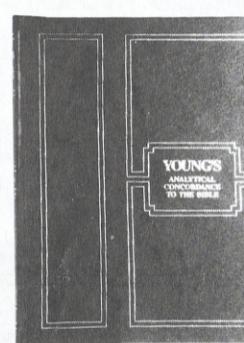


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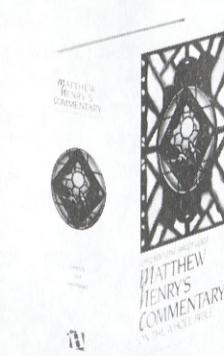
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# THE WHOLE TRUTH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

## THE UNFOLDING VISION!

The next day, Bishop Ford entertained the mayor and many administrative personnel at the downtown headquarters. Mayor Hackett, Mr. Gregory Duckett, Mr. Darrell Ledett met with the bishop in his chambers. Mr. Duckett is Memphis' Director of the Division of Housing and Community Development and Mr. Ledett is the Director of Convention Development. The gentlemen shared in a meaningful dialogue centered around the renovation of the downtown properties and Mason Temple. The first day's activities proved there is common ground between us and the next series of talks became very specific. The renovation of the old hotel was put before the group.

Bishop Ford's vision for Mason Temple stirred further interest. To accent the discussion, the entire group went to Mason Temple and toured the newly renovated sections of Mason Temple. There Bishop Ford and Mayor Hackett stood together in the new Mason Memorial Hall. The newly decorated section where our founder is entombed is very impressive to behold. The mayor inspected the quality workmanship as everyone made positive comments about the room. The mayor examined the marble tomb, the chapel area and a reproduction of the founder's old office. Bishop Brooks told the mayor that our shrine to Bishop Mason would serve as a tourist attraction where those desiring to pray can do so. Bishop Ford indicated the other end of the room will also be dedicated, but to the pioneers of the Church. A large plaque will be mounted that will commemorate their contributions. The hall shall be referred to as "The Hall of Pioneers." Bishop Ford shared how he envisions year round use of the Mason Temple facilities. Simply using Mason Temple twice yearly is not enough and the Presiding Bishop stated that central air and heat would be a necessary step to make that fulltime usage a reality. It stands to reason that more comfortable surroundings would mean people could get use of the Temple. Along with that Bishop Ford indicated that he desires to see Mason Temple placed on the National Registry in Washington, DC. The building will be approaching a fiftieth anniversary date soon and will be eligible. Furthermore, it was mentioned that the building should be honored by the Memphis Landmark Foundation.

It is Bishop Ford's hope that renovation and bringing the properties to a new and exalted status will help further the vision of the Church as it relates to the city of Memphis. As Bishop Ford indicated, "It will build appreciation for our heritage among the people and surely instill pride in our youth to see these efforts continue." Mason Temple is a grand building and a national landmark waiting for its historical promise to be recognized.

What seems to be unfolding is the rediscovery of ourselves and the precious possessions the Lord has blessed the Church Of God In Christ to have. Surely, this generation must maximize use of all we hold. Bishop Ford endeavors by creating a working situation between city authorities and the Church, that opportunities never thought possible can eventuate. He is telling everyone who will listen that our mission is for Christ. The success of our mission in part depends upon our ability to grow, develop and work a tangible ministry. The Presiding Bishop is unfolding the vision and thereby paving our way.

## Housing for Senior Citizens

Bishop Ford is known for his love for people. All over Chicago, people comment that he has possibly fed and cared for more hungry children than anyone. His record of commitment to those in need is an unfolding part of his vision for Church. He has assessed the property the Church Of God In Christ holds in downtown Memphis, and has come to the conclusion that God is demanding a better use for it. Many see what possibly was a grand hotel of the MidSouth, or possibly the place where Elvis Presley's first record was played; both of which are exactly what the old Chisca Hotel represents. Bishop Ford however envisions something quite different and profound for the Old Chisca, turned Church Headquarters.

He is a man who is never afraid to say, "what if?" The downtown headquarters is only partly used, and only twice a year is the entire building ever filled. It is a waste of a resource which could serve the broader society. With there being a critical need for housing, especially housing for the elderly, the bishop has turned his attention upon securing housing for the aged. Downtown Memphis would be a good place to put safe and livable housing for the elderly. Bishop is not interested in a nursing home, rather a housing center for senior citizens who are ambulatory and in reasonable health. Now that Memphis is starting to develop the downtown and plans to develop new businesses, restaurants, and recreation facilities, an apartment complex for seniors would be ideal.

At the recent meeting with Mayor Hackett and others, Bishop Ford outlined his vision for converting the headquarters. Present at the meeting was Mrs. Judy Ponds, a Washington based housing consultant. Mrs. Ponds has an excellent track record in securing funds for model housing. She has a successful record with Church Of God In Christ, as two multi-million dollar developments are currently being erected by two of our congregations in other parts of the country. Mrs. Ponds directed both of these developments. Mrs. Ponds was escorted on a tour of the properties by Bishop W.L. Porter, Elder A.Z. Hall and others. She stated that our Church's situation offers far better circumstances than other institutions she has worked with to gain necessary project funds. She is apt at securing Section 202 Housing Funds. Bishop Ford would like to employ her expertise and develop the headquarters property. Word has it that money is available.

The hotel property would no doubt need gutting totally, then renovating completely. Of course the money is not an automatic thing. An application and approval process which can be quite lengthy must be achieved. To begin work in this pursuit, the bishop has established a committee to examine all possibilities. Bishop W.W. Hamilton who was a former San Francisco chief administrative officer and city planner will serve that committee. Likewise will Bishop W.L. Porter and Elder A.Z. Hall.

Mayor Hackett was delighted with the housing idea. He assigned Mr. Greg Duckett to assist with the housing idea. Mayor Hackett was impressed with the headquarters building when taken on tour. He was unaware that the Church was doing such a model job in keeping the building together.

The committee's task will in part be to consider the use of the property for housing status. It was suggested by Bishop Ford that the old section could be gutted and renovated only. The motel section can yet serve as the administration office for the world headquarters. Furthermore, other properties in the area can be used to house the homeless and feed the hungry.

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## OBITUARY



### Mother B. F. Hood

Mother Birdelle Fuller Hood was born in 1894 to the union of the late Bishop Burton Fletcher and Ida Fuller. She was the oldest of six children. The entire family preceded her in death.

She received her education in Milledgeville, Georgia. She attended college in Augusta, Georgia. After receiving her degree, she attended one year at Payne Institute and received her certificate in Bible Education. She returned to Sandersville and taught 6th grade. There she met Mr. Edgar C. Hood. In 1914, they were united in holy matrimony. To this union was born eleven children.

In 1916, she heard the gospel and was saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost.

In 1920, the family moved to Canton, Ohio. She located a Church Of God In Christ pastored by the late Elder James Lee Finnie. There her husband was saved.

After moving to Detroit, Michigan in 1928, she placed her membership with the late Bishop Fred Winan. In 1932, for convenience, she placed her membership with the late Elder Abraham Walker. In 1939, she placed her membership with the late Bishop C.L. Anderson, Sr. In 1959, the Lord called Bishop Anderson, Sr. home and her present pastor, Bishop C.L. Anderson, Jr., increased her activities. She was appointed Assistant Church Mother, teacher of the Mother's Class and Chairperson of the Mother's Board. She was faithful in service and met her Sunday School Class each Sunday on time.

In the year of 1988, her steps became slow and she could not attend church regularly. However, her voice and spirit were strong, and she was ready at any time to speak for the Lord.

Mother Hood was admitted to the hospital on May 13, 1990 and remained there for one month. She returned home with her family and departed this life on August 12, 1990 at 4:27 p.m.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two sons, Edgar A. Hood and Burton A. Hood; nine daughters, Bertha M. Harris, Mamie L. Samuels, Gladys B. Jones, Lillian Hood, Elsie G. Samuel, Finnie L. Hood, Catherine White, Beatrice Foster and Anna P. Smith; four sons-in-law: Thomas J. Harris, James Samuel, Leon White and Rev. Willie J. Foster; three daughters-in-law: Bernice Hood, Deborah Hood and Conolia Shivers, two sisters-in-law, Gertrude Fuller and Lillian Fuller; thirty-one grandchildren, fifty-five great grandchildren, ten great, great grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, church family and friends. Her husband, three grandsons and one step-son preceded her in death.

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